



**173RD AIRBORNE
BRIGADE**

"THE ROCK"



**1ST BATTALION
(AIRBORNE)
503RD INFANTRY**

503



"D" COMPANY



SERGEANT



INFANTRYMAN

SAMMIE WAYNE WADDLE

**"D" Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry
Specialist 4th Class, E4, Posthumous Promotion to SGT, US53845232, MOS 11B2P
Home of Record: Bremen, AL**

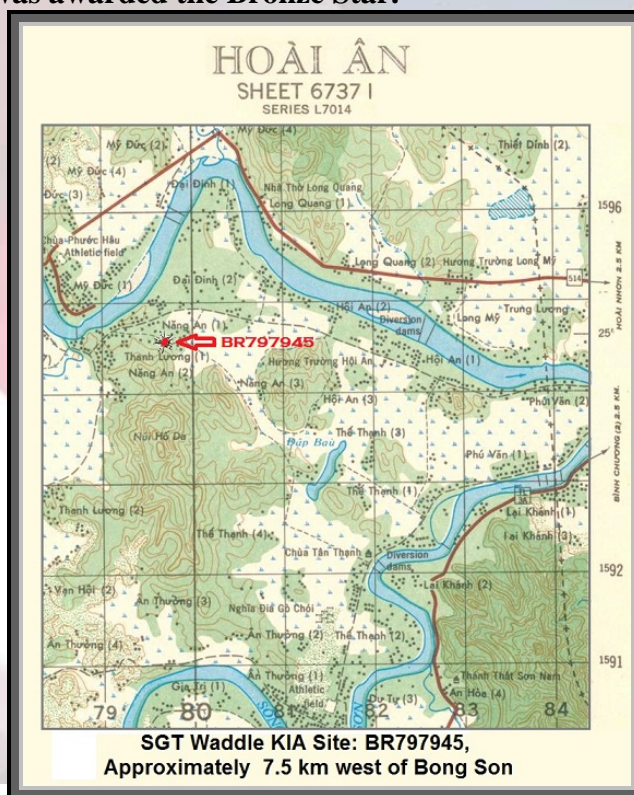
**Date of Birth: December 5, 1943, Age at time of loss: 25, Married
173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate), Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam
Start of Tour: September 23, 1968, Date of Casualty: May 14, 1969, Days in Country: 233
Casualty Type A1, OED, Panel 24W - Row 013**

We have determined that SGT Waddle was not a member of the 1st Battalion (M), 50th Infantry during our tour in Vietnam.

Initially, he was listed as a casualty within our battalion but subsequent document gathering proved otherwise. His name was inscribed in error on our 50th Infantry Vietnam Memorial in front of Battalion Headquarters, Fort Benning, Georgia. A unanimous vote of our association ruled that his name will remain on our memorial and we will give corrected information here on our web site.

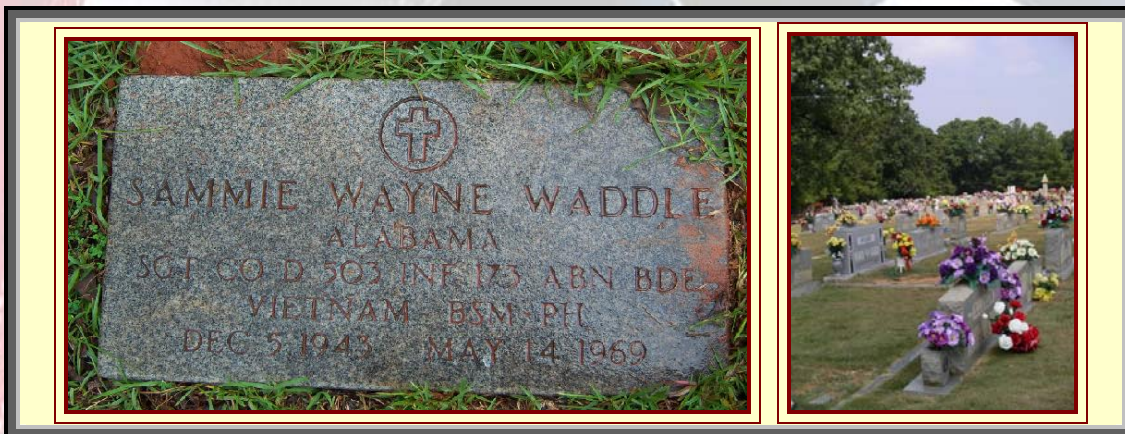
The Daily Staff Journal for 14 May 1969 reads that at 0930 hours, Sergeant Waddle detonated a M26 Grenade Booby Trap near the village of Thanh Luong (1), about 7.5 Km West of Bong Son City (See Map Below). His Body was retrieved and flown to the rear by the Battalion Commander.

Sergeant Waddle was awarded the Bronze Star.

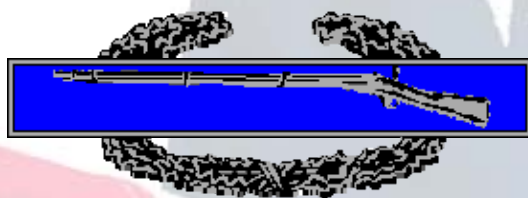


Continued...

Sammie Waddle is buried at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Mt. Pleasant Road, Fulton, Itawamba County, Mississippi pictured below:



AWARDS AND DECORATIONS OF LARRY TREVARTON



Combat Infantry Badge



Airborne Qualified



HQ 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)

FOR DISTINGUISHING HIMSELF BY OUTSTANDING MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST A HOSTILE FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD FROM SEPTEMBER 1968 TO MAY 1969. THROUGH HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS AND PROFESSIONAL ABILITY, HE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED OUTSTANDING RESULTS. HE WAS QUICK TO GRASP THE IMPLICATIONS OF NEW PROBLEMS WITH WHICH HE WAS FACED AS A RESULT OF THE EVER-CHANGING SITUATIONS INHERENT IN THE COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATION AND TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS TO SOLVE THOSE PROBLEMS. THE ENERGETIC APPLICATION OF THIS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE HAS MATERIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO ASSIST THAT COUNTRY IN RIDDING ITSELF OF THE COMMUNIST THREAT TO ITS FREEDOM. HIS INITIATIVE, ZEAL, SOUND JUDGMENT AND DEVOTION TO DUTY HAVE BEEN IN THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND REFLECT GREAT CREDIT ON HIM AND ON THE MILITARY SERVICE.



Bronze Star

Purple Heart

National Defense

Vietnam Service

Vietnam Campaign